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SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN :—" Sir, the Leader of the House refused to reply to my question for his own reasons. Well, I am not pressing him. But at least I may have the information."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" What is the question? "

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN :—" Sir, I put the question, ' How many men are there in the Cabinet from this community? ', and the Hon. Minister said, ' I cannot say; I do not know '."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" No, Sir. I only said that the hon. Member did not require an answer from me."

SRI A. SUBRAMANYAM :—" பிற்பட்ட வகுப்பினர்கள் இந்த மாகாணத்தில் இரண்டு கோடி மக்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். ஆகையால் இந்த மாகாணத்தில் மந்திரிகள் எல்லோரும் பிற்பட்டவர்களாக யிருக்கவேண்டு மென்பது கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களுக்குத் தெரியுமா ? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" அதெல்லாம் எனக்குத் தெரியாது."

*Water diviner for selecting sites for wells*

* 355 Q.—DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether a water diviner has been employed by the Madras Government for selecting sites for wells and, if so, from what date;

(*b*) how many sites for wells were selected by him since his appointment and in how many of them water was struck and in how many of them the water so struck was potable;

(*c*) whether the water diviner predicts the nature of the water likely to be struck at the site selected by him;

(*d*) whether the water diviner specifically states at what depth water would be struck; and

(*e*) whether the site for the well in Kurinjipadi in South Arcot district was selected by the water diviner and, if so, what was the depth at which he predicted that the water would be struck?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) Yes. From 9th February 1954.

" (*b*) 702 sites have been selected by the water diviner. Water was struck in 319 cases of which water was potable in 284 cases.

" (*c*) Yes. Generally.

" (*d*) No. He gives the approximate depth at which water is likely to be struck.

" (*e*) No. Does not arise."

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Dr. A. SREENIVASAN :—" Sir, have the Government any faith in water divining? "

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The divining by the water diviners has been tried, and it has not been altogether unsuccessful."

Sri MOHAMED RAZA KHAN :—" Is the Leader of the House aware that the other day the Hon. the Minister for Public Health said, ' I do not believe in this water diviner, it is all a myth like various other things '? "

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I may tell the hon. Member that the Government in the Health Ministry does not employ any diviners."

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.

Mr. CHAIRMAN :—" I have to announce to the House that I have received the following message, dated the 24th August 1955, from the Deputy Speaker, Madras Legislative Assembly :—

' In accordance with Rule 114 of the Assembly Rules, I transmit a copy of the Madras Cultivating Tenants' Protection Bill, 1955 (L.A. Bill No. 11 of 1955), as passed by the Legislative Assembly on the twenty-fourth day of August 1955, and signed by me for the concurrence of the Council.' "

III.—STATEMENT UNDER RULE 41 (1) OF THE COUNCIL RULES.

* Sri T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Mr. Chairman, Sir, under Rule 41 (1) of the Council Rules, I wish to call the attention of the Minister for Local Administration to the Election notice published on 22nd August 1955 by the Commissioner, Corporation of Madras, as returning officer in the Elections to the Corporation of Madras showing the list of valid nominations in which the candidates are designated as Mudaliar, Naidu, Adi-Dravida, Non-Brahman, Brahman, etc., and in fact, one candidate is designated as ' Koravan ' in spite of the Government Order ordering omission of the term ' Adi-Dravidas ' in official records and designating them as Harijans. Publication of such communal details is opposed to the spirit of our Constitution. As such election notices are to be published in the case of all municipalities and considering the urgency on account of the elections thereto, I bring this to the notice of the Minister."

Sri V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY :—" The Prime Minister of India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, has stated that the whole of India should be united. He has used the word ' casteism '. He has said that ' casteism ' should be abolished. This ' casteism ' is against the spirit as well as the express declaration of our leading statesman and others. The members of these communities would prefer to have their community names deleted."